

REMARKS

The following issues are outstanding in the present application:

- The Specification has been objected to;
- Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14-16, 18-20, 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph;
- Claims 1-7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a);
- Claims 8 and 15-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a);
- Claims 9 and 20-23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a);
- Claims 10-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a); and
- Claims 13 and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims

Claims 8, 11, 19, 20, 22, and 24-28 have been canceled without prejudice.

Specification

The Examiner objected to the disclosure because the paragraphs in the specification have been numbered. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection. The MPEP describes the requirements for the Specification in Section 608.01. Under the heading of PAPER REQUIREMENT, 37 C.F.R. 12(b)(6), it states in part “.....the paragraphs of the specification,, may be numbered at the time the application is filed, and should be individually and consecutively numbered using Arabic numerals,..... The number should consist of at least four numerals enclosed in square brackets, including leading zeros (e.g., [0001]).” The paragraphs of Applicant’s specification are numbered in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 12(b)(6). Since the current practice of the USPTO requires paragraph numbering, Applicant does not understand this objection.

35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph

Claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 14-16, 18-20, 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

The Examiner has stated that the term “triangular shaped” in claims 1 and 15 is not defined by the claims, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.. The Applicant respectfully traverses. According to “Webster’s New World Dictionary”, Third College Edition, page 1426, (copy attached) the term “triangle” is defined first as “a geometrical figure having three angles and three sides”. The term “triangular” is defined first as “of or shaped like a triangle; three-cornered”. Additionally, the Figures, which are part of the application, illustrate “triangular shaped” labels. Applicant respectfully asserts that the term “triangular shaped” does not require a recitation of the degrees of the three angles in a triangle in order to apprise one of ordinary skill in the art of the scope of the invention. The plain meaning of the term “triangle” and “triangular shaped”, as evidenced by Webster’s definition, does not require more in order to be definite to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The Examiner has stated that the terms “vinyl” and “foil” in claims 3 and 6 are indefinite terms. Applicant respectfully traverses. According to “Webster’s New World Dictionary”, Third College Edition, page 1489 and 1490 (copy attached), the term “vinyl” is defined as the monovalent radical CH₂:CH characteristic of many derivatives of ethylene, its hydride, various compounds are polymerized to form resins and plastics for a wide variety of industrial products. In Webster’s Dictionary, at page 523 (copy attached) one of the definitions of the term “foil” is a very thin sheet or leaf of metal. Paragraph 5 and 28 of the specification describe a number of material that can be used as the face material of the label. Applicant respectfully asserts that one skilled in the art of label making, would understand the term “vinyl” to mean a vinyl plastic formed from a derivative of polymerized ethylene and the term “foil” to mean a very thin sheet of metal. This would be particularly true because these terms are part of a list of materials that also includes paper, polyester and polypropylene and the terms “vinyl” and “foil” are generally describing a type of material as are the other terms.

Regarding the term “adapted” and “easily” in claims 5 and 18, these claims have been amended to remove these terms.

Regarding claims 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 19, 22 and 23, certain of these claims have been canceled and other have been amended in order to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection of these claims.

Claims 9 and 20, 14 and 15 have been amended in order to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph rejection of these claims.

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as having subject matter unpatentable over Oosterlinck in view of Warther. Applicant respectfully traverses for the following reasons.

The Oosterlinck reference is directed to an apparatus that converts base stock to releasably-lined labels by separating the face web and the backing layer, cutting the label from the face web and pressing the cut label back onto the backing liner to form releasably-lined labels. The reference states that this process is an improvement over the prior art. The prior art is described in column 1, lines 18-39 as consisting of several techniques. In a first technique, the labels are individually formed on a continuous web prior to their use in the label application equipment in which the release liner is pulled through the machine and the labels are transferred from the release liner to articles to be labeled. In a second technique, the labels are cut from a continuous web of label stock at or adjacent the label application equipment and in this case, the face web is severed into discrete labels that are applied to the articles as they are cut.

The Oosterlinck reference describes a disadvantage of the prior art as being the process of cutting the labels before separating the face web from the liner. The reference states that this cutting is difficult to maintain because the cutting apparatus needs to cut deeply enough to sever both the face web and the pressure sensitive adhesive layer on its back, without penetrating the release liner. If the cut is too deep, then the backing layer may be weakened to the point that the backing layer breaks as it is pulled through automated label application machinery. Oosterlinck states that it overcomes these problems by separating the face web and the backing layer, cutting a label from the face web and pressing the cut label back onto the back liner.

The Warther reference is directed to data storage tags that are made from a core of printable sheet material having a pair of opposing major sides in which either or both of the sides can be printed. Both sides of the core are then covered with a transparent film layer. The core material is scored at numerous locations to define the various removable tags or labels. The sheet is scored in such a way so as to releaseably retain and remove the tags from the sheet products (Col. 3, lines 3-27). The sheet product is described as being any thin sheet or web material having two major planar opposite sides which can be printed upon (Col. 7, lines 28-30) and the transparent film layers are described as being any material that is suitably and sufficiently transparent and can be applied to the core material without adversely affecting the core or the printing thereon (Col. 7, lines 61 and 62). Column 9, lines 46-57 states that if labels are being made, strips of pressure sensitive adhesive 64 can be applied, with or without release paper 66, to the back side of one of the core surfaces. See Fig. 2 where the pressure sensitive adhesive is applied to the two side edges of the back side of one of the core surfaces.

Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention when there is some teaching, suggestion or motivation to do so found in either the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ 2d 1586 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *In re Jones*, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ 2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992). Applicant asserts that there is no teaching, suggestion or motivation found in the references or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine these references.

This is so for a number of reasons. Firstly, the Oosterlinck reference is directed to labels that have printing on one side and an adhesive layer on the other side that are used for labeling bottles, jars and other containers and articles, wherein the Warther reference is directed to a printed sheet product (tags or labels) formed by a core of printable sheet material having a pair of opposing major planar sides in which each side can contain printing. Secondly, in the embodiment in Warther that is described as a label, as shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2, only strips of pressure sensitive adhesive and release material are attached to the ends or sides of each label. Neither the tags or labels of Warther are formed from face web, an adhesive layer and a backing layer. There would be no reason for one skilled in the art to combine these references because doing so would destroy the functionality of the Warther tags and labels.

Further the problem solved in Oosterlinck is to cut a label from the face web without cutting too deep into the backing layer which then causes the backing liner to break as it is pulled through an automated label application machinery. This problem does not apply to Applicant's labels as its labels are not pulled through or associated with an automated label application machinery. Applicant respectfully asserts that the combination of these references is an improper combination of references. Applicant respectfully asserts that the combination of Oosterlink and Warther is an improper combination of references.

Independent claim 1 is directed to an adhesive label produced by a process that includes the steps of: (1) providing a web consisting of an adhesive label substrate having a face material, an adhesive layer and a liner; (2) positioning the web in a label conversion machine wherein the web is continuously pulled through the conversion machine in a preselected web direction; (3) configuring a plurality of triangular shaped labels on the face material in which each label has a first, second and third side wherein the first side of adjacent labels face each other and the second side of adjacent labels face each other such that the third side of each label faces outwardly from the web width; (4) cutting the plurality of triangular shaped labels on the web; (5) printing the plurality of triangular labels; and (6) processing the plurality of triangular labels into individual rolled strips.

Applicant respectfully asserts that there is no teaching, suggestion or motivation found in either of the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art that would motivate one skilled in the art to combine these references in order to produce the label of the subject invention. Particularly since in the Oosterlinck reference, the face web is separated from the backing liner prior to cutting the label and then cut label is pressed back into the back liner to form a releasably-lined label and in the Warther reference, the tags or labels are not even formed from label stock that includes a face web, an adhesive layer and a backing liner. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as having subject matter obvious over Oosterlinck in view of Warther.

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 15-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as having subject matter unpatentable over Oosterlinck in view of Warther, and further in view of Kirk. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 8 and 19 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot to these claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the previous discussion of the patentability of the subject invention over the combination of Oosterlink and Warther obviates the present rejection of claims 15-18. Kirk adds nothing to the combination of Oosterlink and Warther that would teach or suggest to one skilled in the art the subject matter of claims 15-19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding objection of claims 8 and 15-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as having subject matter obvious over Oosterlinck in view of Warther, and further in view of Kirk.

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 9 and 20-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as having subject matter unpatentable over Oosterlinck in view of Warther, and further in view of Kirk and further in view of prior art discussed in the specification at page 1, paragraph [0003]. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Applicant respectfully submits that the previous discussion of the patentability of the subject invention over the combination of Oosterlink and Warther obviates the present rejection of these claims. If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, than any claim depending therefrom is by definition nonobvious. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q. 2d, 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Claim 9 depends at least in part from independent claim 1 and claims 21 and 23 depend at least in part from independent claim 15. Claims 20 and 22 have been canceled. Applicant asserts that because these are dependent claims, they are nonobvious over Oosterlinck in view of Warther, and further in view of Kirk and further in view of prior art discussed in the specification at page 1, paragraph [0003].

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 10 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as having subject matter unpatentable over Oosterlinck in view of Warther, and further in view of prior art discussed in the specification at page 1, paragraph [0003]. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Applicant respectfully submits that the previous discussion of the patentability of the subject invention over the combination of Oosterlink and Warther obviates the present rejection of these claims. If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, than any claim depending therefrom is by definition nonobvious. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q. 2d, 1596

(Fed. Cir. 1988). Claim 10 and 12 depends at least in part from independent claim 1. Applicant asserts that because these are dependent claims, they are nonobvious over Oosterlinck in view of Warther, and further in view prior art discussed in the specification at page 1, paragraph [0003].

35 U.S.C. 103(a)

The Examiner has rejected claims 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as having subject matter unpatentable over Oosterlinck in view of Warther, and further in view of prior art discussed in the specification at page 1, paragraph [0003]. Applicant respectfully traverses.

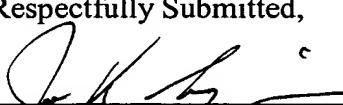
Applicant respectfully submits that the previous discussion of the patentability of the subject invention over the combination of Oosterlink and Warther obviates the present rejection of these claims. If an independent claim is nonobvious under 35 U.S.C. 103, than any claim depending therefrom is by definition nonobvious. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q. 2d, 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Claim 13 and 14 depends at least in part from independent claim 1. Applicant asserts that because these are dependent claims, they are nonobvious over Oosterlinck in view of Warther, and further in view prior art discussed in the specification at page 1, paragraph [0003].

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that this application is now in condition for allowance. In the event that minor claim amendments are necessary to meet formal requirements, Applicant invites the Examiner to telephone the undersigned so that appropriate amendments can be made.

Respectfully Submitted,

By:


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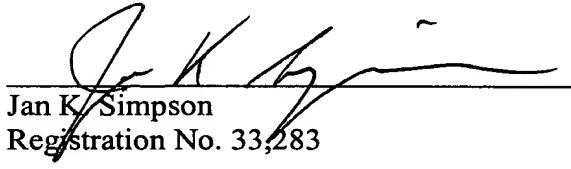
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(A)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail EU578405191US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on Jan 22, 2003.


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VERSION WITH MARKING TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

5. (Amended) The adhesive label of claim 1, wherein the liner is a silicone-coated sheet of paper ~~adapted~~ configured to allow the face material and adhesive layer to be ~~easily~~ removed from the liner.

9. (Amended) The adhesive label of claim 8~~7~~, wherein the text ~~used in food safety labeling systems~~ is selected from a group consisting of text found in day of the week ~~FIFO first in first out~~ food safety labeling systems, text relating to shelf-life/product identification food safety labeling systems and text relating to use by/use first food safety labeling systems.

12. (Amended) The adhesive label of claim 10~~1~~, wherein the color printed on the labels industry standard color code system is selected from a group of colors consisting of blue for Monday, yellow for Tuesday, red for Wednesday , brown for Thursday, green for Friday, orange for Saturday, and black for Sunday.

14. (Amended) The adhesive label of claim 13, wherein ~~a variable copy position for the text results in text is being~~ positioned on alternating first and second sides of adjacent triangular labels.

15. (Amended) An adhesive label comprising:

a triangular shaped adhesive label having a first, second and third side of equal length, the label including a face material, an adhesive layer and a liner;

the face material of the label including ~~printing relating to food safety labeling systems~~text selected from a group consisting of text found in day of the week first in first out food safety labeling systems, text relating to shelf-life/product identification food safety labeling systems and text relating to use by/use first food safety labeling systems;

whereby the triangular shaped label is ~~adapted to be used in food safety labeling systems utilized by food services industries~~.

18. (Amended) The adhesive label of claim 15, wherein the liner is a silicone-coated sheet of paper ~~adapted~~configured to allow the face material and adhesive layer to be easily removed from the liner.

23. (Amended) The adhesive label of claim 212, wherein the ~~industry standard color code system is color~~ printed on the label is selected from a group of colors consisting of blue for Monday, yellow for Tuesday, red for Wednesday , brown for Thursday, green for Friday, orange for Saturday, and black for Sunday.

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THIRD COLLEGE EDITION

**Webster's
New World
Dictionary®**

OF AMERICAN ENGLISH

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Editor in Chief

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betid (bet' id; also bet'-id) **adj.** alt. sp. of **FETID**

betitus (bet'-it'-us) **n.** alt. sp. of **FETUS** —**foetal adj.**

fog (fog, fāg) **n.** [prob. < Scand, as in ON *fok*, Dan (*sne*) *fog*, driving snow, Norw dial. *fuka*, sea mist < IE base *pū-, to puff up, blow, of echoic orig.] 1 a large mass of water vapor condensed to fine particles, at or just above the earth's surface; thick, obscuring mist 2 a similar mass of smoke, dust, etc. obscuring the atmosphere 3 a vaporized liquid, as insecticide, dispersed over a large area 4 a state of mental dimness and confusion; blurred, bewildered state 5 a grayish area on a photograph or film —**vt.** fogged, fog'ging 1 to become surrounded or covered by fog 2 to be or become blurred, dimmed, or obscured —**vt.** 1 to surround or cover with fog 2 to blur, dim; obscure 3 to confuse; bewilder 4 [Slang] to hurl (a baseball, etc.) 5 to make (a photograph, etc.) grayish in certain areas —**SYN.** MIST

fog² (fog, fāg) **n.** [ME *fogge*, prob. < Scand as in Norw dial. *fogg*, long grass in moist place, akin to Ger *feucht*, damp; see FEN¹] 1 a new growth of grass after cutting or grazing 2 long, rank grass left uncut or left standing 3 [Scot.] moss

fog bank a dense mass of fog as seen from a distance, usually at sea

fog-bound (-bound') **adj.** 1 surrounded or covered by fog 2 prevented from sailing, flying, etc. because of fog

fog-bow (-bō) **n.** a phenomenon like a white or slightly tinted rainbow, sometimes seen in a fog

fog-dog (-dōg') **n.** a bright spot sometimes seen at the horizon as a fog starts to dissipate

fog-gey (fō'gē) **n., pl.** -geys **ROGY**

fog-gia (fōd'jā) **commune** in Apulia, SE Italy; pop. 157,000

foggy (fōg'ē, fāg'-ē) **adj.** -gi'er, -gi'est 1 full of fog; misty; murky 2 dim; blurred; clouded 3 confused; perplexed —**fog'gi'y adv.** —**fog-** **gness n.**

***Foggy Bottom** [after the orig. name given to the swampland on which U.S. State Department offices were built] [Colloq.] the U.S. State Department: often used with humorous reference to vague language used in official statements

fog-horn (fōg'hōrn', fāg'-ē) **n.** 1 a horn on a ship, lighthouse, buoy, etc. sounded as a warning during a fog 2 a loud, strident voice

foggy (fō'gē) **n., pl.** -gies [< ?] a person who is old-fashioned or highly conservative in ideas and actions; usually used with *old* —**fog-** **gish adj.** —**fog'gyism n.**

fol (fōl) **interj.** FAUGH

folible (fōib'əl) **n.** [obs. var. of Fr *faible*; see FEEBLE] 1 a small weakness; slight frailty in character 2 the weakest part of a sword blade, from the middle to the point: cf. FORTE¹ (sense 2) —**SYN.** FAULT

foil¹ (foil) **vt.** [ME *foilen* < OFr *fuler*, to trample on, subdue; see FULL²] 1 to keep from being successful; thwart; frustrate 2 *Hunting* to make (a scent, trail, etc.) confused, as by recrossing, in order to balk the pursuers —**n.** 1 [Archaic] the scent or trail of an animal 2 [Archaic] a thwarting —**SYN.** FRUSTRATE

foil² (foil) **n.** [ME < OFr *fuil* (Fr *feuille*), a leaf < L *folium*, leaf; see FOLIATE] 1 a leaflike, rounded space or design between cusps or in windows, etc., as in Gothic architecture 2 a very thin sheet or leaf of metal 3 the metal coating on the back of a mirror 4 a thin leaf of polished metal placed under an inferior or artificial gem to give it brilliance 5 a person or thing that sets off or enhances another by contrast —**vt.** 1 to cover or back with foil 2 [Rare] to serve as a contrast to 3 to decorate (windows, etc.) with foils

foil³ (foil) **n.** [< ?] 1 a long, thin fencing sword with a button on the point to prevent injury: see SWORD, illus. 2 [pl.] the art or sport of fencing with foils

foi-ls-man (foi'lz'mān) **n., pl.** -men (-man) a fencer who uses a FOIL³ (sense 1)

foin (fōn) **vt., n.** [ME *foinen* < *foin*, a thrust, stab < OFr *foinse*, fish spear < L *fusca*, a trident] [Archaic] lunge or thrust, as in fencing

foi-son (fōi'zōn) **n.** [ME *foisoun* < OFr *foison*, *fusion* < L *fusio*, a pouring; see FUSION] 1 [Archaic] a plentiful crop; good harvest; plenty 2 [Now Dial.] a) vitality; strength; ability b) [pl.] resources

foist (fōist) **vt.** [prob. < dial. Du *vuisten*, to hold in the hand; hence, in dicing, to hide or palm in the hand < *vuist*, a fist, akin to FIST] 1 to put in slyly or surreptitiously, as a clause into a contract 2 to get (a thing) accepted, sold, etc. by fraud, deception, etc.; palm off: with *on* or *upon*

Fokin (fōkēn'), Mi-chel (mē shēl') (born Mikhail Mikhailovich Fokin) 1880-1942; U.S. choreographer, born in Russia

Fokker (fōk'ər), Anthony Herman Gerard 1890-1939; U.S. aircraft designer, born in Dutch East Indies: built airplanes for Germany & the Netherlands, 1911-21

fol-i-o(s) 2 following

fol-i-a-cin (fōl'ē a sin) **n.** [FOL(IC AC(ID) + -IN¹] FOLIC ACID

fold¹ (fold) **vt.** [ME *folden* < OE *feldan* (WS *fealdan*), akin to Ger *falten* < IE *pel-to- < base *pel-, to fold] 1 (SIMPLE, (TRI)PLE) 1 a) to bend or press (something) so that one part is over another; double up on itself /to fold a sheet/ b) to make more compact by so doubling a number of times 2 to draw together and intertwine /to fold the arms/ 3 to draw (wings) close to the body 4 to clasp in the arms; embrace 5 to wrap up; envelop —**vt.** 1 to be or become folded 2 [Colloq.] to fail; specify, a) to be forced to close, as a business, play, etc. b) to succumb, as to exhaustion; collapse —**n.** 1 a folded part or layer 2 a mark made by folding 3 a hollow or crease produced by folded parts or layers 4 [Brit.] a hollow; small valley 5 Geol. a rock layer folded by pressure —**fold** in Cooking to blend (an ingredient) into a mixture, using gentle, cutting strokes

fold² (fold) **n.** [ME < OE *fold*, akin to Du *vaalt*, enclosed place, Dan *fold*, sheep pen] 1 a pen in which to keep sheep 2 sheep kept together; flock of sheep 3 a group or organization with common

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foetid / f lk

interests, aims, faith, etc., as a church —**vt.** to keep or confine in a pen

-fold (fōld) [**fold**] [ME -fold, -fal'd < OE -feald; see FOLD¹] suffix 1 forming adjectives having (a specified number of) parts /a tenfold division/ 2 forming adjectives and adverbs (a specified number of) times as many, as much, as large /to profit tenfold/

***fold-away** (fōld'ē wā') **adj.** that can be folded together for easy storage /a foldaway cot/

fold-boat (fōld'bōt) **n.** a lightweight, collapsible, folding kayak

folder (fōld'ər) **n.** 1 a person or thing that folds 2 a sheet of cardboard or heavy paper folded for holding loose papers, as in a file 3 a circular with one or more folds, each section of which is a separate printed page

fol-de-rol (fōl'dē rōl') **n.** 1 a showy but worthless trinket 2 mere nonsense

folding door a door with hinged leaves or accordion pleats that can be folded back

***folding money** [Colloq.] PAPER MONEY

***fold-out** **n.** GATEFOLD

fol-i-a (fōl'ē ə) **n.** alt. pl. of POLIUM

fol-i-alceous (fōl'ē ə'shōs) **adj.** [L *foliaceus* < *folium*, a leaf; see FOLIATE] 1 of or like the leaf of a plant 2 having leaves 3 consisting of thin layers, as certain rocks

fol-i-age (fōl'ē ij') **n.** [ME *foliage* < OFr *feuillage* < *feuille*, a leaf < L *folia* < *folium*; see FOLIATE] 1 leaves, as of a plant or tree; mass of leaves; leafage 2 a decoration consisting of a representation of leaves, branches, flowers, etc.

fol-i-agé (-jjēd') **adj.** having foliage: often in hyphenated compounds [dark-foliaged]

fol-i-er (fōl'ē ēr) **adj.** [ModL *foliaris* < L *folium*; see fol.] of or like a leaf or leaves

fol-i-ate (fōl'ē ət') for adj., usually, -it) **vt.** -at-ed, -at-ing [*l* < L *foliata*, leafy < *folium*, a leaf < IE base *bhel-, *bhlo-, to swell, blossom > BLADE, BLOOM¹] 1 a) to divide into thin layers b) to beat into foil 2 to decorate with leaflike layers or ornamentation 3 to number the leaves of (a book or manuscript) —**vt.** 1 to separate into layers 2 to send out leaves —**adj.** 1 having or covered with leaves 2 like a leaf or leaves

fol-i-ation (fōl'ē ə'shōn) **n.** [ML *foliatio*: see prec.] 1 a growing of or developing into a leaf or leaves; leaf formation 2 the state of being in leaf 3 the way leaves are arranged in the bud; vernation 4 the act or process of beating metal into layers 5 a) a splitting into leaflike layers (said of certain minerals) b) the property of splitting into such layers c) such layers 6 the process of backing glass as with metal foil to make a mirror 7 the consecutive numbering of leaves, rather than pages, of a book 8 a) a decorating with leaflike ornamentation b) a leaflike decoration consisting of small arcs or foils

fo-li-acid (fōlik) [*< L folium*, a leaf (see FOLIATE) + -IC] a crystalline substance, C₁₆H₁₈N₄O₆, found in green leaves and in certain other plant and animal tissues, exhibiting vitamin B activity: used in medicine, esp. for treating certain anemias

fol-i-e à deux (fō lē ə dō') [Fr, lit., double insanity] Psychiatry a condition in which two closely associated people who are mentally ill share the same delusional beliefs

fol-i-e de gran-deur (de grān dēr') [Fr] delusions of grandeur; megalomania

fol-i-o-los (fōl'ē ik'ə las) **adj.** [*folii-* (< L *folium*, leaf; see FOLIATE) + -COLOUS] growing on leaves, as certain lichens, fungi, and algae

fol-i-nic acid (fō lin'ik) [FOL(IC ACID) + -IN¹ + -IC] the active substance, C₂₀H₃₂N₄O₆, into which folic acid is converted in body tissue

fol-i-o (fōl'ē o'; also fōy'ō) **n., pl.** -lios' [*< ME < L (in) folio*, (in) a sheet, abl. of *folium*, a leaf (in LL, leaf of paper); see FOLIATE] 1 a large sheet of paper folded once, so that it forms two leaves, or four pages, of a book, manuscript, etc. 2 a large size of book, about 12 by 15 inches, made of sheets folded in this way 3 a leaf of a manuscript, book, etc. numbered on only one side 4 the number of a page in a book, etc. 5 a set number of words (100 in the U.S., 72 or 90 in England) considered as a unit of measuring the length of a legal or official document 6 Bookkeeping a page of a ledger, or facing pages with the same number —**adj.** having sheets folded once; of the size of a folio —**vt.** -li-ed, -li-ing to number the pages of (a book, etc.) consecutively; page —**in** folio in the form or size of a folio

fol-i-o-late (fōl'ē ə lit-, -lat'; fōl'ē ə) **adj.** [*< folio*, a leaflet (< Fr < L *foliolum*, dim. of L *folium*, leaf; see FOLIATE) + -ATE¹] Bot. having or relating to leaflets

fol-i-o-se (fōl'ē əs) **adj.** [*L foliosus*, leafy < folium, a leaf: see FOLIATE] covered with leaves; leafy

fol-i-o-us (fōl'ē əs) [*< L folium*, a leaf + -OUS] combining form having (a specified number or kind of) leaves

fol-i-um (fōl'ē əm) **n., pl.** -li-u-ms or -li-a (-s) [*L*: see FOLIATE] 1 Geol. a thin layer of stratum, as in metamorphic rock 2 Geom. the looping, closed part of a curve extending from a node

folk (fōk) **n., pl.** folks or folks [ME < OE *folc*, akin to Ger *volk* < Gmc **fułka*, army, group of warriors < ?] 1 a) a people, tribe, or nation; ethnic group b) the large body of the common people of such a group (with the like) 2 [pl.] people in general; persons /folks differ in their tastes/ —**adj.** of, originating among, or having to do with the common people, who transmit the general culture of the group through succeeding generations /folk art/ —just (plain) folks

at, ate, cār; ten, ève; is, ice; gō, hōrn, look, tōl; oil, out; up, fur; a for unstressed vowels, as a in ago, u in focus; ' as in Latin (flat)'; chin; she; zh as in azure (azh'ər); thin, the; n as in ring (rin) In etymologies: * = unattested; < = derived from; > = from which

See inside front and back covers



trespass —n. [ME *trespas* < OFr *< the v.*] the act or an instance of trespassing; *offense*; a moral offense; transgression b) an encroachment or intrusion c) Law an illegal act done forcefully against another's person, rights, or property; also, legal action for damages resulting from this —**tres'passer** *n.*

SYN. —trespass implies an unlawful or unwarranted entrance upon the property, rights, etc. of another [*to trespass* on a private beach]; to encroach is to make such intrusions by stealth or gradual advances [*squatters encroaching on our lands*]; infringe implies an encroachment that breaks a law or agreement or violates the rights of others [*to infringe* on a patent]; intrude implies a thrusting oneself into company, situations, etc. without being asked or wanted [*to intrude* on one's privacy]; invade implies a forcible or hostile entrance into the territory or rights of others [*to invade* a neighboring state]

tress (*tres*) *n.* [ME *tresse* < OFr, akin to It *treccia* < VL **triccia*, a plait] 1 orig., a braid or plait of hair 2 a lock of human hair 3 [pl.] a woman's or girl's hair, esp. when long and falling loosely

-tress (*tris*) *suffix* female; see **-ESS**

tressed (*trest*) *adj.* 1 having tresses of a specified kind [*black-tressed*] 2 arranged in tresses; braided

tres·sure (*tres'hər*) *n.* [ME *tresour* < MFr *tresseur* < OFr *tresce*; see TRESS] Heraldry a narrow band following the contour, and somewhat inside the edge, of a shield, often ornamented with fleurs-de-lis: cf. ORLE

trestle (*tres'lē*) *n.* [ME *trestel* < OFr < VL **transstellum*, dim. of L *transstrum*, a beam; see TRANSMIT] 1 a frame consisting of a horizontal beam fastened to two pairs of spreading legs, used to support planks to form a table, platform, etc. 2 a) a framework of vertical or slanting uprights and crosspieces, supporting a bridge, etc. b) a bridge with such a framework

trestle-tree (-*tré*) *n.* either of two horizontal fore-and-aft beams, one on each side of a mast, that support the crosstrees, top, and fid of the mast above

***trestle-work** (-*werk*) *n.* 1 a system of trestles for supporting a bridge, etc. 2 a structure made of trestles

tret (*treɪt*) *n.* [Anglo-Fr (*Fr trait*), a pull < OFr *traire* (< L *trahere*, to DRAW)] a fixed allowance by weight, after the deduction of tare, formerly made to buyers of certain commodities to compensate for waste and deterioration during transit

Tre·vel·yan (*tri vəl'yān*) 1 George Macaulay 1876-1962: Eng. historian 2 Sir George Otto 1838-1928: Eng. historian & politician; father of George Macaulay

trews (*trōz*) *n. pl.* [Gael *truibhas*] [Scot.] trousers, esp. tartan trousers

trey (*trā*) *n.* [ME < OFr *trei*, *treis* < L *tres*, THREE] 1 a playing card with three spots 2 the side of a die bearing three spots, or a throw of the dice totaling three

tri- (*tri*) [[< Fr, L, or Gr: Fr *tri-* < L (< *tres*, THREE) or Gr (< *treis*, THREE, *tris*, THRIC)]] prefix 1 having, combining, or involving three [*triangular*, *trichromatic*] 2 triply, in three ways or directions [*triphilic*] 3 three times, into three [*trisect*] 4 every three, every third [*triennial*, *triweekly*] 5 Chem. having three atoms, groups, or equivalents of (the thing specified) [*tribasic*, *tribromide*]

tri·able (*tri'bəl*) *adj.* 1 that can be tried or tested 2 subject to trial in a law court —**tri·able·ness** *n.*

***triac** (*tri'ak*) *n.* [*tri(ode)* a(lternating-)c(urrent switch)] Electronics a device used to control power

tri-ac·etate (*tri'əs'ēt*) *n.* a compound containing three acetate radicals in the molecule

tri-acid (*tri'əs'īd*) *adj.* 1 capable of reacting with three molecules of a monobasic acid; said of a base 2 containing three replaceable hydrogen atoms; said esp. of an acid

triad (*tri'ad*) *n.* [*< LL trias* (gen. *triadis*) < Gr *trias* (gen. *triados*) < *tres*, THREE] 1 a group of three persons, things, ideas, etc.; trinity 2 a musical chord of three tones, esp. one consisting of root tone and its third and fifth; a triad with a major third and perfect fifth is called a *major triad*; a triad with a minor third and perfect fifth is called a *minor triad* —**tri·ad'ic** *adj.*

triage (*tri'zh*) *n.* [Fr, a sifting < *trier*: see TRY & -AGE] 1 a system of assigning priorities of medical treatment based on urgency, chance for survival, etc. and used on battlefields and in hospital emergency wards 2 any system of establishing the order in which acts of assistance are to be carried out in an emergency

trial (*tri'əl*) *n.* [Anglo-Fr < *trier*: see TRY] 1 a) the act or process of trying, testing, or putting to the proof; test b) a testing of qualifications, attainments, or progress; probation c) experimental treatment or operation; experiment 2 a) the fact or state of being tried by suffering, temptation, etc. b) a hardship, suffering, etc. that tries one's endurance c) a person or thing that is a source of annoyance or irritation 3 a formal examination of the facts of a case by a court of law to decide the validity of a charge or claim 4 an attempt; endeavor; effort —**adj.** 1 of a trial or trials 2 made, done, or used for the purpose of trying, testing, etc. —on trial in the process of being tried

SYN. —trial implies the trying of a person or thing in order to establish worth in actual performance [*tried on trial*]; experiment implies a showing by trial whether a thing will be effective [*the honor system was instituted as an experiment*] and, in addition, is used of any action or process undertaken to discover something not yet known or to demonstrate something known [*experiments in nuclear physics*]; test implies a putting of a thing to decisive proof by thorough examination or trial under controlled conditions and with fixed standards in mind [*a test of a new jet plane*] See also AFFLICTION

trial and error the process of making repeated trials or tests, improving the methods used in the light of errors made, until the right result is found —**tri'al-and-er'rōr** *adj.*

trial balance a statement of the debit and credit balances of all open

accounts in a double-entry bookkeeping ledger to test their equality

★**trial** *n.* 1 PILOT BALLOON 2 any action, statement, etc.

intended to test public opinion on an issue

JURY, TRIAL JURY

tri·logue (*tri'lōg*, -*läg*) *n.* [*< TRI- + -LOGUE*] an interchange and discussion of ideas among three groups having different origins, philosophies, principles, etc.

tri·angle (*tri'āng'gəl*) *n.* [ME < MFr < L *triangulum*; see TRI- & ANGLE'] 1 a geometrical figure having three angles and three sides 2 a) any three-sided or three-cornered figure, area, object, part, etc. b) 3 a right-angled, flat, triangular instrument used in drawing geometrical figures 4 a situation involving three persons, esp. when one person is having love affairs with two others 5 a musical percussion instrument consisting of a steel rod bent in a triangle with one angle open; it produces a high-pitched, tinkling sound

tri·an·gu·lar (*tri'āng'gəl'är*) *adj.* [*LL triangularis*] 1 of or shaped like a triangle; three-cornered 2 of or involving three persons, factions, units, or parts 3 having bases that are triangles, as a prism —**tri·an·gu·lar·ity** (-*ler'ētē*) *n.* —**tri·an·gu·lar·ly** *adv.*

tri·an·gu·late (*tri'āng'gəlāt*) *vt.* [*< ML *triangulatus*, pp. of **triangulare**] 1 to divide into triangles 2 to survey or map (a region) by triangulation 3 to make triangular —**adj.** 1 of triangles; triangular 2 marked with triangles

tri·an·gu·la·tion (*tri'āng'gəlā'shən*, -*gyā-*) *n.* [ML *triangulatio*] 1 Surveying, Navigation the process of determining the distance between points on the earth's surface, or the relative positions of points, by dividing up a large area into a series of connected triangles, measuring a base line between two points, and then locating a third point by computing both the size of the angles made by lines from this point to each end of the base line and the lengths of these lines 2 the triangles thus marked out

Tri·an·gu·lum (*tri'āng'gəl'üm*) a N constellation between Aries and Andromeda

Triangulum Aus·tra·le (*ōs trā'lē*) a S constellation between Apus and Norma

tri·ar·chy (*tri'ār'ē* kē, -är'-) *n.*, *pl.* -chies [Gr *triarchia*; see TRI- & -ARCHY] 1 a) government by three rulers; triumvirate b) a country governed by three rulers 2 a country with three districts, each governed by its own ruler

Tri-as·sic (*tri'ās'ik*) *adj.* [*< Ger *triassisch* (< LL *Trias* (see TRIAD); because divisible into three groups) + -isch, -IC*] designating or of the first period of the Mesozoic Era, following the Permian Period of the Paleozoic Era and characterized by the appearance of many reptiles, including the dinosaurs, and the dominance of cycads and ferns —*the Triassic* the Triassic Period or its rocks; see GEOLOGY, chart: also the *Trias* (-ss)

***tri·ath·le** (*tri'āth'lēt*) *n.* one who takes part in a triathlon

***tri·ath·lon** (*tri'āth'lōn*, -lən) *n.* [*TRI- + Gr *athlon*, a contest*] an endurance race combining three consecutive events (swimming, bicycling, and running)

tri·at·ic *stay* (*tri'āt'ik*) [*< ?*] Naut. 1 a rope or stay secured to the heads of the foremast and mainmast, to which hoisting tackles can be attached 2 a wire running from the foremast to the mainmast

tri·atomic (*tri'āt'm'ik*) *adj.* 1 designating or of a molecule consisting of three atoms 2 designating or of a molecule containing three replaceable atoms or groups

tri·ax·ial (*tri'āks'ēl*) *adj.* having three axes, as some crystals —**tri·ax·ial·ly** *adv.*

tri·az·ine (*tri'āz'ēn*, -zin; *tri'āz'ēn*, -in) *n.* [*TRI- + AZINE*] 1 any of three isomeric heterocyclic compounds having the formula $C_6H_4N_2$, 2 any derivative of these

tri·az·ole (*tri'āz'ōl*, *tri'āz'ōl'*) *n.* [*TRI- + AZOLE*] 1 any of four isomeric heterocyclic azoles, $C_5H_4N_2$, having three nitrogen atoms in the ring 2 any derivative of these

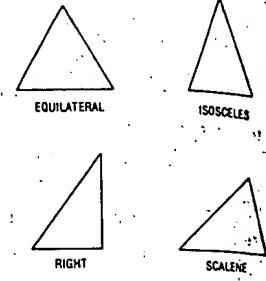
trib·ad·ism (*trib'ād iz'm*) *n.* [*< Fr *tribade*, lesbian (< L *tribas*, gen. *tribadis* < Gr *tribas* < *tribein*, to rub < IE *trib- < base *ter-> THROW) + -ISM*] homosexuality between women; lesbianism

trib·al (*trib'āl*) *adj.* of, relating to, or characteristic of tribe or tribes —**trib'āl·ly** *adv.*

trib·al·ism (*trib'āl iz'm*) *n.* 1 tribal organization, culture, loyalty, etc. 2 strong sense of identifying with and being loyal to one's tribe, group, etc. —**trib'āl·ist** *adj.*, n. —**trib'āl·is'tic** *adj.*

tri·ba·sic (*tri'bās'ik*) *adj.* [*TRI- + BASIC*] 1 containing in its molecule three atoms of hydrogen that are replaceable by basic atoms or radicals: said of an acid 2 producing three hydrogen ions per molecule in solution 3 containing three monovalent basic atoms or groups

trib·e (*trib'ē*) *n.* [ME *trybe* < L *tribus*, one of the three groups into which Romans were orig. divided, tribe < *tri-* (see TRI-) + IE *bh₂- < base *bh₂eu-, to grow, flourish > BE] 1 esp. among preliterate peoples, a group of persons, families, or clans believed to be descended from a common ancestor and forming a close community under leader, or chief 2 a group of this kind having recognized ancestry; specif. a) any of the three divisions of the ancient Romans, traditionally of Latin, Sabine, and Etruscan origin b) any of the



radical C_2H_3- characteristic of many derivatives of ethylene, its hydride: various vinyl compounds are polymerized to form resins and plastics for a wide variety of industrial products

vinyl alcohol an alcohol, CH_2CHOH , known only in the form of its esters or ethers, or its polymer, polyvinyl alcohol

vinyl chloride a colorless gas, CH_2CHCl , made by reacting acetylene with hydrogen chloride or by cracking ethylene dichloride: it is used to make polyvinyl chloride, etc.

vinylidene (*vi nil'ē dēn'*) *n.* [*VINYL* + *-ID(E)* + *-INE*] the divalent radical CH_2C derived from ethylene

vinylidene resin any synthetic resin in which the basic structure consists of the $\text{H}_2\text{C}-\text{CR}_2$ group, where R usually is a halogen

***vinyl plastic** any of various plastics made from polymerized vinyl compounds or copolymers of vinyl and other resins, used in various molded or extruded products, coatings, adhesives, sizes, etc.

***vinyl resin** a polymer formed from vinyl compounds, used with other resins, plasticizers, etc. to produce various solid vinyl plastics

viol (*vī'əl*) *n.* [MF *viole* < OProv *viula* < Frank **vithula* < VL *vitula*: see *FIDDLE*] any of an early family of stringed instruments played with a curved bow, characterized generally by six strings, frets, a flat back, and C-shaped sound holes: used chiefly in the 16th and 17th cent. in sizes from the treble viol to the bass viol

viola¹ (*vē'ə lā*, *vī'ə lā*) *n.* [It < OProv *viula*, *viol*] a stringed instrument of the violin family, slightly larger than a violin and tuned a fifth lower

viola² (*vī'ə lā*, *vī'ə lā*) *n.* [ME < L, a violet, prob. of non-IE orig.] a violet; esp., any of various violets developed from a pansy (*Viola cornuta*), grown as garden plants

Viola (*vī'ə lā*, *vē'ə lā*) [*< L viola, a violet*] a feminine name: dim. *Vi*

viola-lable (*vī'ə lā bəl'*) *adj.* [L *violabilis* < *violare*: see *VIOLATE*] that can be, or is likely to be, violated —**viola-lability** or **viola-lable-ness** *n.* —**viola-lably** *adv.*

viola-ceous (*vī'ə lā shēs'*) *adj.* [L *violaceus*, violet-colored < *viola*, a violet] violet in color

viola clef ALTO CLEF

viola da brac-cio (*vē'ə lā dā brā'chō*) [It, lit., viol for the arm] an early stringed instrument of the viol family, comparable in range to the viola

viola da gamba (*gām'bā*) [It, lit., viol for the leg] an early stringed instrument of the viol family, held between the knees and comparable in range to the cello

viola d'amore (*dā mó'rā*) [It, lit., viol of love] an early stringed instrument of the viol family having a set of wire strings that are stretched behind the bowed gut strings, and whose sympathetic vibrations produce soft, clear, ringing tones

violate (*vī'ə lat'*) *vt.* -*lated*, -*lat-ing* [ME *violaten* < L *violatus*, pp. of *violare*, to use force or violence, akin to *vis*, force] 1 to break (a law, rule, promise, etc.); fail to keep or observe; infringe on 2 to commit a sexual assault on; esp., to rape (a woman) 3 to desecrate or profane (something sacred) 4 to break in upon; interrupt thoughtlessly; disturb *(to violate someone's privacy)* 5 to offend, insult, or outrage *(to violate one's sense of decency)* —**violate** *adj.*

violation (*vī'ə lā'shən*) *n.* [ME *violacion* < L *violatio*] a violating or being violated; specif. a) infringement or breach, as of a law, rule, right, etc. b) sexual assault; rape c) desecration of something sacred, as a church d) interruption; disturbance

violence (*vī'ə ləns*) *n.* [ME < MF: < L *violentia* < *violentus*: see fol.] 1 physical force used so as to injure, damage, or destroy; extreme roughness of action 2 intense, often devastatingly or explosively powerful force or energy, as of a hurricane or volcano 3 a) unjust or callous use of force or power, as in violating another's rights, sensibilities, etc. b) the harm done by this 4 great force or strength of feeling, conduct, or expression; vehemence; fury 5 a twisting or wrenching of a sense, phrase, etc., so as to distort the original or true sense or form *(to do violence to a text)* 6 an instance of violence; violent act or deed

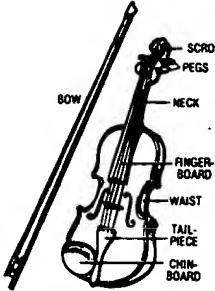
violent (-*ent*) *adj.* [ME < MF: < L *violentus*, violent, akin to *violare*, to VIOLATE] 1 a) acting with or characterized by great physical force, so as to injure, damage, or destroy b) acting or characterized by force unlawfully or callously used 2 caused by violence *(a violent death)* 3 a) showing, or resulting from, strong feeling or emotion; vehement; furious *(violent language)* b) emotionally disturbed to an uncontrollable degree 4 extreme; intense; very strong *(a violent storm)* 5 tending to distort the meaning *(to put a violent construction on a text)* —**violent** *adv.*

violent-est (*vī'ə lēnt'*) *adj.* [*< L viola, a VIOLET* + *-ESCENT*] shading off toward a violet color

violet (*vī'ə lit*) *n.* [ME < OFr *violette*, dim. of *viole* < L *viola*, a violet < or akin to Gr *ion*, violet] 1 a) any of a genus (*Viola*) of plants of the violet family, having white, blue, purple, or yellow irregular flowers with short spurs b) the flower of any of these plants 2 any of various similar plants, as the African violet, or their flowers 3 a bluish-purple color —**adj.** 1 designating a family (Violaceae, order Violales) of temperate and tropical dicotyledonous plants having five-parted flowers, a one-celled ovary, and a three-valved fruit capsule, including the pansies 2 of a violet color

violet layer Astron. a layer of particles in the upper atmosphere of the planet Mars, that scatters and absorbs certain electromagnetic radiation, thus preventing the blue, violet, and ultraviolet light waves from passing through

violet ray 1 the shortest ray of the visible spectrum 2 loosely, an ultraviolet ray



VIOLIN AND BOW

WOMAN PLAYING A VIOLIN

vio-lin (*vī'ə lin'*) *n.* [It *violino*, dim. of *viola*, *VIOLA*] any instrument of the modern family of stringed instruments played with a bow, characterized by four strings tuned in fifths, a lack of frets, a somewhat rounded back, and f-shaped sound holes; specif., the smallest and highest-pitched instrument of this family, held horizontally under the chin, resting against the collarbone; fiddle

vio-lin-ist (-*ist*) *n.* [It *violinista*] a violin player

vio-lin-cell-ist (*vī'ə län'chel'ist*, *vī'ə lā*) *n.* a cello player; cellist

vio-lon-cello (-*chel'ō*) *n.*, pl. -*los* [It, dim. of *violone*, bass viol < *viola*, *viol*] CELLO

vio-lone (*vī'ə lō'nā*) *n.* [It, aug. of *viola*, *viol*, *VIOLA*] the largest and lowest pitched viol

vio-s-terol (*vī'əs tōr'l*, *-rōl*) *n.* [(ULTRA)VIO(LET) + (ERGO)STEROL] ERGOCALCIFEROL

VIP (*vī'ə pē'*) *n.* [Very] i(mportant) p(erson)] a high-ranking official or important guest, esp. one accorded special treatment

vi-per (*vī'ə pər*) *n.* [OFr < L *vipera*, contr. < ? * *vivipara*, producing live young < *vivus*, living (see BIO-) + *parere*, to bear; see PAROUS] from the notion that the viper does not lay eggs] 1 any of a widespread family (Viperidae) of venomous snakes, including the pit vipers, the European adder, and the African puff adder; solenophid 2 any of various other poisonous or supposedly poisonous snakes 3 a) malicious or spiteful person b) a treacherous person

vi-perine (-*in*, -*in'*) *adj.* [L *viperinus*] of, having the nature of, or like that of a viper; venomous

vi-perous (-*əs*) *adj.* of, having the nature of, or like a viper; esp., spiteful or malicious; also *vi-perish* —**vi-perously** *adv.*

viper's bugloss BLUEWEED

vi-rago (*vī'ra gō*, *vī'ə*) *n.*, pl. -*goes* or -*gos* [ME < OE < L, a manlike female < *vir*, man; see WEREWOLF] 1 a quarrelsome, shrewish woman; scold 2 [Archaic] a strong, manlike woman; amazon

vi-ral (*vī'ral*) *adj.* of, involving, or caused by a virus

vi-relay (*vī'ə lā'*) *n.* [ME *vyreleye* < OFr *virelay*, prob. altered by assoc. with *lai* (see LAY')] any of various French verse forms, popular in the 14th and 15th cent., with only two rhymes per stanza, and a refrain Also *vir'el* (-*lā'*; Fr *vir' la'*)

***virid** (*vī'rid*) *n.*, pl. -*los* [L, greenfinch, akin to *virere*, to be green] any of a family (Vireonidae) of small, insect-eating, American passerine birds, with olive-green or gray plumage —**virid-nine** (-*a nīn'*, *-nīn*) *adj.* *n.*

vi-res (*vī'rez*) *n.* [L] pl. of *vis*

vi-res-cence (*vī res'əns*, *vi-*) *n.* [*< fol.*] 1 the condition of becoming green 2 Bot. the turning green of petals or other parts that are not normally so, due to the abnormal presence of chlorophyll

vi-res-ent (-*ent*) *adj.* [ML *viresent*, pp. of *virescere*, to grow green < *virere*, to be green] 1 turning or becoming green 2 greenish

virga (*vīr'gə*) *n.* [ModL, streak in the heavens < L, twig, wand] Meteorol. long streamers or wispy streaks of water or ice particles falling from the base of a cloud but evaporating completely before reaching the ground

vir-gate (*vīr'git*, *-gāt'*) *n.* [ML *virgata (terrea)* < L *virga*, twig (see VERGE); used as transl. of OE *gierdlend*, yardland] an old English unit of land measure varying greatly in size, but most commonly equal to about 30 acres

vir-gate² (-*git*, *-gāt'*) *adj.* [ModL *virgatus* < L, made of twigs < *virga*, twig; see VERGE] 1 rod-shaped 2 Bot. long, thin, and stiff, with few branches

Vir-gil (*vīr'jəl*) [*< L Vergilius*, name of the Roman gens to which the poet belonged] (L, name *Publius Vergilius Maro*) 70-19 B.C.; Rom. poet; author of the *Aeneid* —**Vir-gilian** (-*jīən*) *adj.*

vir-gin (*vīr'jən*) *n.* [ME < OFr *virgine* < L *virgo* (gen. *virginis*), maiden; ? akin to *virga*, slender branch, twig, shoot] 1 a) a woman, esp. a young woman, who has never had sexual intercourse b) an unmarried girl or woman 2 less commonly, a man, esp. a youth, who has never had sexual intercourse 3 Zool. a) a female animal that has not copulated b) a female insect that lays eggs without impregnation by the male —**[V.] VIRGO** —**adj.** 1 being a virgin 2 composed of virgins 3 characteristic of or proper to a virgin; chaste; modest 4 like or suggesting a virgin because untouched, unmarked, pure, clean, etc. *(virgin snow)* 5 up to this time unused, untrod, unworked, undiscovered, etc. by man *(a virgin forest)* 6 occurring uncombined in its native form *(virgin silver)* 7 being the first; initial *(a virgin effort)* 8 a) obtained from the first pressing, without the use of heat (said of an oil, as of olives) b) obtained directly from an ore (said of a metal) —**the Virgin Mary**, the mother of Jesus